

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multi-function apparatus includes a plurality of image forming apparatuses, a buffer memory, a data transmission mechanism, and a connector. Each image forming apparatus includes a controller which includes a program memory for storing a program used by the image forming apparatus. The data transmission mechanism connects the image forming apparatuses to each other so as to allow a data transmission therebetween. The connector connects an external storage to the data transmission mechanism so as to allow a data transmission from the external storage to the buffer memory. The external storage stores data of programs to be respectively used by the image forming apparatuses. When the external storage is connected to the connector, the data of the programs stored in the external storage are transmitted to the buffer memory through the connector and are downloaded into the respective program memories included in the controllers of the image forming apparatuses through a data transmission using the data transmission mechanism.

I:\atty\CTS\206173.doc1.doc